

# **The Economic Impact of Plumb Thicket Landfill Revenues: A Citizen's Guide**

## **1. What types of revenue will the landfill generate for Harper County?**

### **Answer:**

- New property tax revenue will result from taxation of the landfill property and any capital improvements
- Landfill owner, Waste Connections, pays a host fee to Harper County calculated at \$2.25 per ton of waste.<sup>1</sup> The host agreement limits total waste to 2,000 tons per day during the six days per week the landfill is open.
- Harper County also receives an annual monitoring and inspection fee to compensate the county for its oversight of landfill operations <sup>2</sup>

## **2. What other economic benefits will be realized by the community?**

### **Answer:**

- Creation of 20 new jobs in Harper County with an approximate total annual payroll of \$560,000 – new dollars that will generate additional sales tax revenues for the cities of Anthony, Attica and Harper.
- Free trash disposal for all Harper County residents over the life of the landfill, a benefit worth approximately \$70,000 annually.<sup>3</sup>
- Expansion of the tax bases of other Harper County local governments whose taxing districts include the landfill site: USD 361, Harper Hospital, SCKS library and Township 6. The governing bodies of these jurisdictions will determine how to use their additional property tax dollars.

## **3. What does all this mean for Harper County residents and property owners? What are the total annual revenues?**

### **Answer:**

- Property tax revenues for 2007 from the landfill are conservatively projected
- The total amount of host fees paid to Harper County in 2006 was \$940,778.
- Monitoring and inspection fees paid to Harper County in 2006 were \$150,000.
- The total revenue to Harper County government in 2007 from landfill operations is conservatively estimated to be approximately \$1.4 million.

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<sup>1</sup> Increases in host fees are indexed annually to inflation.

<sup>2</sup> Increases in monitoring and inspection fees are indexed annually to inflation.

<sup>3</sup> Estimated life of the landfill is 30 years. Note that residents must still pay a local hauler for trash pick up.